

09/554629

422 Rec'd T/PTO 16 MAY 2000

Attorney Docket No. 00336/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Shinji NAKAHARA  
Masato IMAI  
Masanori MAYASUMI  
Kazutoshi INOUE

Serial No. : To be assigned (U.S.  
National Phase of  
PCT/JP98/05212, filed  
November 11, 1998)

Filed : Concurrently herewith

For : DEVICE FOR HOLDING  
SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER

Art Unit :

Examiner :

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C.F.  
3/28/01

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Attention: BOX PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 9, line 29, change "exerting a holding force of" to  
--being adapted to act against said  
peripheral edge of said wafer to exert a  
holding force toward the center of said  
wafer in--.

Page 10, line 5, after "the" (second occurrence) insert  
--force of--;